

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 10 and 13 as follows.

Please cancel claim 20 without prejudice or disclaimer.

1. (Withdrawn) A method for breeding an azalea which breeds deciduous azalea with converting it into an evergreen property, in which a gene concerning evergreen is introduced into the deciduous azalea to breed an evergreen azalea.

2. (Withdrawn) The method for breeding evergreen azalea according to Claim 1, wherein said introduction of the gene is crossing utilizing a evergreen azalea as a flower parent or a seed parent.

3. (Withdrawn) The method for breeding an azalea according to Claim 1, wherein said deciduous azalea is *R. reticulatum*, *R. dilatatum* var. *satsumense*, or *Rhododendron weyrichii*, and said evergreen azalea is *R. eriocarpum*.

4. (Withdrawn) The method for breeding an azalea according to Claim 1, wherein said crossing is mutual crossing.

5. (Withdrawn) The method for breeding an azalea according to Claim 1, wherein *Rhododendron weyrichii*, which is deciduous azalea, and *R. dilatatum* var.

satsumense, which is deciduous azalea are crossed to introduce a gene concerning evergreen is introduced into the deciduous azalea.

6. (Withdrawn) A method for breeding an azalea which breeds non-heat resistant azalea with converting it into heat resistance, in which a gene concerning heat resistance is introduced into the non-heat resistant azalea to breed a heat resistant azalea.

7. (Withdrawn) The method for breeding an azalea according to Claim 6, wherein the introduction of said gene is conducted by crossing a heat resistant azalea as a pollen parent or a seed parent.

8. (Withdrawn) The method for breeding an azalea according to Claim 6, wherein said heat resistant azalea is *Rhododendron eriocarpum*, and said non-heat resistant azalea is Kurume Azalea or Kurume Azalea Hybrids.

9. (Withdrawn) The method for breeding an azalea according to Claim 6, wherein said non-heat resistant azalea is evergreen azalea or deciduous azalea, and said heat resistant azalea is deciduous azalea or evergreen azalea, and wherein an evergreen property is imparted to said azalea which is bred with introducing a gene concerning evergreen property into said deciduous azalea.

10. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

introducing a genotype from an azalea comprising an ever-flowering property into a deciduous, one season flowering azalea to breed an ever-flowering azalea,

wherein a selection of two different azaleas to cross breed is conducted by using a genotype which is an inheritance of main anthocyanidins, pelargonidin (Pgn), cyanidin (Cyn), and delphinidin (Dpn), concerning the exhibition of flower color.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the genotype can repeat the ever-flowering property every year.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the introducing comprises cross utilizing the ever-flowering azalea introducing the genotype as a pollen parent.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein said ever-flowering azalea is a *Rhododendron oldhamii*, and wherein said one season flowering azalea is one of a Hirado azalea or a Hirado azalea hybrid.~~Azalea Hybrids.~~

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein said ever-flowering azalea is an evergreen azalea, and wherein the introducing further comprises imparting an evergreen property to said azalea.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein said ever-flowering azalea is an evergreen azalea, and wherein the introducing further comprises imparting an evergreen property to said azalea.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein said one season flowering azalea is one of a non heat resistant azalea or a heat resistant azalea, wherein said ever-flowering azalea is one of a heat resistant azalea or a non-heat resistant azalea, and wherein the introducing further comprises imparting a heat resistance to said azalea.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein said one season flowering azalea is one of a non heat resistant azalea or a heat resistant azalea, wherein said ever-flowering azalea is one of a heat resistant azalea or a non-heat resistant azalea, and wherein the introducing further comprises imparting a heat resistance to said azalea.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein said one season flowering azalea is one of a non heat resistant azalea or a heat resistant azalea, wherein said ever-flowering azalea is one of a heat resistant azalea or a non-heat resistant azalea, and wherein the introducing further comprises imparting a heat resistance to said azalea.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein said one season flowering azalea is one of a non heat resistant azalea or a heat resistant azalea, wherein

said ever-flowering azalea is one of a heat resistant azalea or a non-heat resistant azalea, and wherein the introducing further comprises imparting a heat resistance to said azalea.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) An azalea created by the method for breeding an azalea according to claim 10.